AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

A1

Figure 2A is a diagram illustrating the construction of a wedge-shaped element of an elevator emergency stop device according to the invention in the case of a small braking force;

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 10, after line 8:

A2

Figure 2B is a diagram illustrating the construction of a wedge-shaped element of an elevator emergency stop device according to the invention in the case of a large braking force;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

A3

Figure 3A is a view illustrating the braking characteristic of ~~an~~ a conventional elevator emergency stop device;

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 10, after line 10:

A4

Figure 3B is a view illustrating the braking characteristic of an elevator emergency stop device according to the invention;

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

A5

When, as braking proceeds, the sliding speed of the sliding portions 11 and guide rail ~~10~~ 1 becomes smaller, the coefficient of dynamic friction becomes larger, with the result that the braking force becomes large and the flexure of resilient element 10 becomes larger, so moveable parts 3a are raised relative to the fixed parts 3b.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

A6

Since moveable parts 3a rise along the inside inclined faces of fixed parts 3b, their positions in the horizontal direction approach fixed parts 3b (direction away from the guide rail) i.e. the width of the wedge-shaped element 3 as a whole (X dimension in Figure 2A and Figure 2B) becomes smaller. As a result, the flexure of spring ~~7~~ 13 becomes smaller, causing the force with which sliding portion ~~10~~ 11 of wedge-shaped element 3 is pressed on to guide rail 1 to become smaller.

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